Quality Water – Quality Service
Hagerstown Water Department

We are pleased to make public our Annual Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services that are delivered to your home everyday. Our constant goal is to provide our customers with a safe and dependable supply of water. We would like to share with you the methods and process that we use to ensure the quality of your water. We have two (2) wells that draw groundwater from the Whitewater Valley Aquifer System. These well are located at the rear of 299 North Sycamore Street, Hagerstown, IN. We pump and treat an average of 475,000 gallons of water each day from these sources. We maintain two (2) above ground storage tanks with a combined storage capacity of 525,000 gallons, which on the average maintains approximately sixty-five (65) pounds of pressure per square inch (psi) within the system. Our wells are capable of producing two (2) million gallons of water per day. We also maintain approximately thirteen (13) miles of water main associated valving and support equipment. As water is vital for fire protection, we maintain a one hundred plus (100+) fire hydrant system that enhances local fire fighting efforts, resulting in a lower individual fire insurance rate for the community at large.

We are also pleased to report that our drinking water exceeds all Federal and State standards and requirements. We also take pride in the fact that our water tastes good, based on unsolicited comments we hear from many of our customers. Although water has many other uses, tap water represents a terrific bargain when you consider the cost of any other wholesome material to quench your thirst. One thousand gallons of tap water costs $7.40. The same amount of bottled water would cost approximately $3,160.00 dollars. Compare costs with any other of your favorite beverages (which are made mostly of water). The results may surprise you.

Water Department Contract

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please call Carl Allen at (765) 489-6171. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. You may wish to attend a regularly scheduled board meeting. They are held the first and third Mondays of the month at the Hagerstown Town Hall and begin at 7:30 p.m.

Monitoring

The Hagerstown Water Department routinely and consistently monitors for Contaminants in your drinking water. We monitor in accordance with State and Federal law and provide each of those entities with the results of the particular test that was conducted. In a staggered three (3) year period, we test for the presence of all the following substances. This report reflects Jan. 1, through Dec. 31, 1999, 2000, 2001.

VOC's: Volatile Organic Contaminants
SOC's: Synthetic Organic Contaminants
IOC's: Inorganic Contaminants
SODIUM: Salt Concentration
LEAD AND COPPER: Metals
RADIONUCLIDES: Radioactive Contaminates

We test for the presence of the following substances annually:

NITRATE: The Univalent Radical NO^3 OR A Compound Containing Same

We test for the presence of the following substances twice per month:

E-COLI: Microbiological Contaminant

We test for the proper concentration of the following substances weekly:

FLOURIDE: A Tooth Decay Preventive

We test for the proper concentration of the following substances daily:

CHOLORINE: A Disinfectant Used In Our Treatment Technique

Comparative Information

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water may be reasonably expected to contain trace amounts of some contaminants. These contaminants can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. The presence of such minute amounts does not necessarily pose a health hazard and we would be the first to notify you if a contaminant reached that level. In fact, the Hagerstown Water Department was granted reduced monitoring by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management due to the consistently high quality of water we process. These reduced monitoring waivers were renewed in 1999. Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many of the regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of experiencing the described health effect.

Special Health Concerns

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers if there is any question they may be at risk. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate measures to lessen the risk of microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Definitions

In the following information, you may find terms or abbreviations unfamiliar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:

- Non-Detects (ND) or Below Detection Levels (BDL) … The particular contaminant is not present or is below detectable limits
- Parts Per Million (ppm) or Milligrams Per Liter (mg/l) … One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000 dollars
- Pars Per Billion (ppb) of Micrograms Per Liter … One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2000 years or a single penny in $10,000.00 dollars
- Picocuries Per Liter (pCi/L) … Picocuries per liter is a measure of radioactivity in the water. Note there is always a background radiation due to decay of natural and man-made deposits
- Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow
- Variances & Exemptions (V&E) … A regulatory agencies permission to fail to meet a MCL or treatment technique
- Treatment Technique (TT) … A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant (s) in drinking water
- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) … Is the highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs (see below) as feasible using the best available treatment technology. Note: The Hagerstown Water Department provides water significantly below the margin of all the MCLs in question
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) … Is the level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is now known or expected risk to health. The MCLG allows for a safety margin. Note: Again, the Hagerstown Water Department provides water quality significantly below the margins of the MCLs, and if not below very close to the MCLGs in question

Contaminant Issue

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, and in some cases

Radioactive materials. It may also pickup substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria which may come from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, sewage treatment plants, and wildlife
- Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals, which can naturally occurring result from urban storm run-off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming
- Organic chemicals including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses
- Radioactive materials which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water include bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least a small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of such contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Contaminant Detect

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Detect	Likely Source
Barium	**2 ppm**	**2 ppm**	**.012 ppm**	**Erosion of Natural deposits**
Nitrate	**10 ppm**	**10 ppm**	**3 ppm**	**Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits**
***Lead**	**AL 15 ppb**	**0 ppb**	**5 ppb**	**Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits**
***Copper**	**AL 1.3 ppm**	**1.3 ppm**	**.134 ppm**	**Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching of wood preservatives**
Radionuclides	**See Below**	**See Below**	**See Below**	**See Below**
Alpha	**15 pCi/L**	**0**	**0+1.8 pCi/L**	**Erosion of natural deposits**
Beta	**50 pCi/L**	**0**	**4.2 + / -3.4 pCi/L**	**Erosion of natural deposits**

***** Lead and Copper detects are reported in the 90th percentile of all samples taken. No sample exceeded the EPA Action Level.

Other Test Results

The following test results may be of interest:

Particulate (Water Hardness)……214.0 mg/L

Sodium……...19.4

Volatile Organic Compounds…….BDL

Synthetic Organic Compounds……BDL

Inorganic Compounds……..BDL (with the exception of Barium reflected on the Detect table.)

Microbiological…….BDL

MTBE……BDL

In closing, the men and women of the Hagerstown Water Department work diligently in their attempt to bring quality water into your home. Because water is a recyclable rather than a renewable resource (we have all that we will ever have), we also ask that all of our customers join with us in the protection and conservation of this valuable resource, in order that future generations may continue to benefit from this literally life sustaining liquid.

Carl Allen

Director of Municipal Operations